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RR #4-3414

Approved For Release 2003/06/17 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003300190014-5

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15 July 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

The following points were discussed at the PBB meeting on
15 July 1953

Present: Messrs. Walter Bedell Smith, Roger Kyes,
C. D. Jackson, Allen W. Dulles, George Morgan

(1) C. D. Jackson had an idea about the possibility of sending in token amounts of food by balloons and would send a paper to CIA on the subject which could be discussed at a later meeting. There was considerable discussion of food conditions in the Satellite countries, and Mr. Jackson said that the information as to food conditions in these countries was not very adequate but did not seem to indicate a catastrophic situation anywhere. Albania was a possible exception. WBS said that he felt that it would be premature to take action now. We had gotten dividends out of the East German proposal where the need is manifest. If we quickly followed up with offers, sure to be rejected, with respect to the Satellites, it would likely look like pure propaganda and would take away from East German operations. WBS thought we should wait a bit and meanwhile follow closely the food situation in these countries so that if there was a demonstrated food crisis anywhere we should be prepared to move. It was agreed that WBS would send a message to our respective embassies in the Satellite countries to report fully on food conditions and he asked that CIA do the same with respect to our sources of information on the subject outside of the Satellites. It was felt that CIA might pick up something on this subject in [] (Action to be taken by DD/P office)

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(2) Mr. Jackson referred to an Air Force research project which I believe was being carried out at MIT, relating to Russia, which had been 80% completed by now, and was threatened with termination before the final product was available. RK said that no final decision had been taken. The matter was up for discussion and he would see what could be done. I stated that I was somewhat disturbed at the consequences of terminating certain of these projects which might be of general interest to the intelligence community, and I thought it might be worthwhile to examine them and see if any should be carried on to completion to conserve the large investment that had been made wherever the production seemed to be of general utility.

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(4) I discussed the Egyptian situation and said that our people were disturbed over developments resulting from the disappearance of a British soldier and British and Egyptian reaction. WBS said that the President's reply to Naguib should be helpful in offering a way out and did not seem to feel the situation was immediately critical.

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(6) I spoke with C. D. Jackson with regard to the Presidential statement to be issued at the time of the signing of the special bill for admission to the United States of [redacted] Mr. Jackson said that this operation was approved in principle, and I said that I would let him have our suggestions as to the draft of the statement. (Please see attached paper dated 13 July 1953 from Mr. Helms. I suggest someone get in touch with Mr. Jackson directly and let him review the drafts and our comments thereon)

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ALLEN W. DULLES

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AWD:leb (15 July 1953)

Distribution

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